

MAINE

Fish and Wildlife

SUMMER 2010

KIDS!
DO YOU KNOW
MAINE'S FISH?
QUIZ PAGES 14-15

Too Cool!
KIDS ONLY
FISHING
PONDS

PAGES 4-17



PAGES 22-27 DEER AREAS

More than an insignia. It's our brand.

We know Cheerios by its bright yellow box. Oscar Mayer from its b-o-l-o-g-n-a song. Geico because of its gecko.

In Maine, we can readily recognize two logos: L.L.Bean and its green box and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's red-bordered insignia.

There are reasons why businesses create symbols. They want people to recognize them and to think about two things: the name of the business or product and its reputation. It's called "branding," and a lot of money is spent on making sure they get that symbol just right.

General Mills sells a "line" of cereal called Cheerios, but its "brand" is everything that Cheerios represents: a bright yellow box, its o-shaped cereal pieces, its research that a diet rich in Cheerios could lower cholesterol, and that that it's an easy-to-eat healthy finger food for children.

A big part of our "brand" is our insignia. It's everywhere: buildings, displays, research reports, law books, social media and web sites, clothing, hats, and even water bottles.

I don't know when, in the agency's



**Commissioner
Roland D. Martin**



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

130-year history, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's insignia was drawn and subsequently approved as its identifiable symbol. We're proud of it, and believe it's worth a good look.

The insignia is shaped like a badge, and melded in its border are the words "Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife." Typically security agents – or people who protect us – wear badges. While the Maine Warden Service is a division of MDIF&W, this conservation law enforcement agency is not the only protection service within the department. All 300 MDIF&W employees are protectors of Maine's natural resources – the woods and inland waters, the fish and wildlife that live in them, and the people who recreate in the outdoors.

Here's why we take our jobs seriously. The dominant word in the insignia is

"Maine." It's our home. Yours, too. Also, in the heart of the insignia is a drawing of the outdoors, represented by woods, water, fish and wildlife. The state's natural resources are one of the heartfelt reasons why we live in Maine. For you, too.

For 130 years, the department has built its reputation on fairness, research, law enforcement, and customer service. We do this by providing information at public hearings, trade shows, lottery events, classrooms, rod and gun club dinners, and press conferences. Employee interaction with residents and non-residents is important to us because we need you to know what we're doing and why we're doing it. Sometimes we may disagree, but we do it respectfully and professionally. And sometimes we compromise, because information you've shared has helped us and vice versa.

After all, we all care about Maine's natural resources.

Take a look, again, at our insignia. We know it means just as much to you as it does to us.

You visit our buildings. You read our research reports. You carry and use our law books. You've become a fan on Facebook. You wear our clothing and hats. You put our stickers on the windows of your vehicles.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is more than a state agency. It's a brand.

And we appreciate your support of what we do.



MAINE SPORTSMAN

\$20 ANNUAL FEE

Proceeds support fish hatcheries, boat access, landowner relations and endangered species.

PICK A PLATE

**AVAILABLE AT BUREAU
OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND
DESIGNATED TOWN OFFICES.**

**FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE
VEHICLE REGISTRATION
OR VANITY PLATES.**



MAINE CONSERVATION

\$20 INITIAL FEE; \$15 RENEWAL FEE

Proceeds support endangered and threatened species and state parks.



*We are stewards
of Maine's fish and wildlife,
protecting and preserving
Maine's natural resources,
quality of place
and economic future.*

.....

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IF&W COMMISSIONER

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Did you know?

There are 31,806 miles of
brooks, rivers and streams in
Maine, and about 70 percent
is brook trout habitat?

MAINE

Fish and Wildlife

SUMMER 2010

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INSIDE

.....



Give a Kid a Chance to Fish

Kids Only fishing ponds offer ample chances

By Emily Jones and Travis Barrett

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Fall Fishing in Maine

Unique angling opportunities exist when summer ends

By Travis Barrett

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Living On The Edge

Managing white-tailed deer wintering areas

By Joe Wiley and Chuck Hulsey

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FLIR

Infrared camera new life-saving, law enforcement tool

By Deborah Turcotte

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Uniforms of Green

Game Warden Rick Clowry records song for anniversary

By Deborah Turcotte

Pages 24-35



New Adventures Await

Maine Wildlife Park, Swan Island improvements

By Lisa Kane

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Legalese

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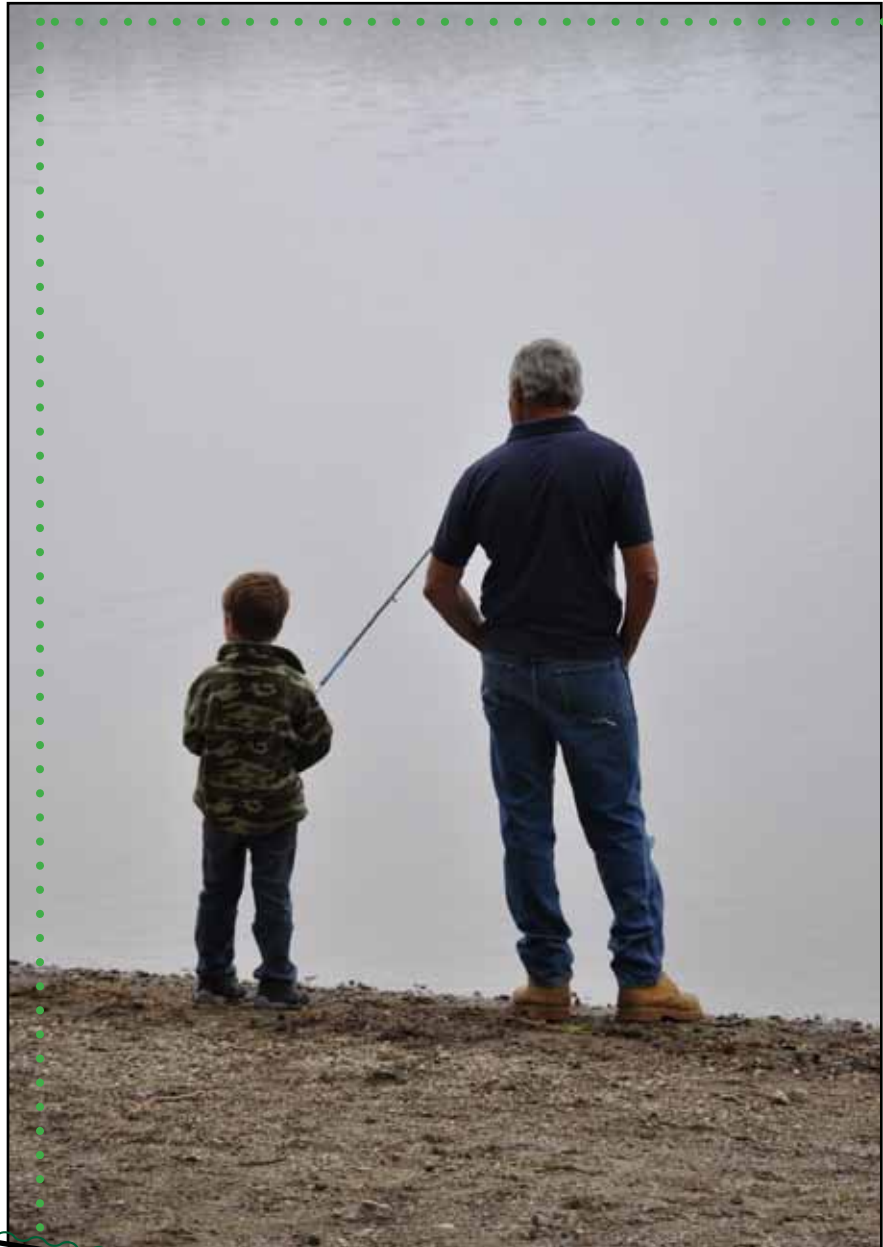
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Too Cool!
**KIDS ONLY
FISHING
PONDS**

Reeling in a fish on the end of a line is a thrill enjoyed by people of all ages. The variety of fishing available in Maine is what makes the sport so easy for everyone in the family.

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife provides special opportunities for children and families by designating certain bodies of water throughout Maine as youth-only fishing waters. These ponds or sections of rivers are open only to children 15 years or younger to fish and most are specially stocked with brook trout.





FAMILY FUN

For more information about fishing as a family, visit www.takemefishing.org. To learn more about Maine's Hooked on Fishing program, contact Youth Activities Coordinator Emily Jones at emily.jones@maine.gov.

Paradise at Pickerel Pond

By Emily Jones

MDIF&W Youth Activities Coordinator
mainefamilyoutside.wordpress.com

Welcome to Pickerel Pond and Maine Youth Fish and Game Association – a dream come true for children and families in the Bangor region who enjoy spending time outdoors. Located in Township 32 just outside of Milford, the facility features a beautiful log cabin base lodge that was donated by Northern Log Homes and built entirely from donations and by community volunteers. The lodge overlooks Pickerel Pond, which is a youth only fishing pond managed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to provide special opportunity for children 15 or under. The facility also features a shooting range, outdoor classroom, boat house with canoes and kayaks donated by Old Town Canoe, Adirondack shelters built by local Eagle Scouts, hiking trails and an abundance of fish and wildlife. The 21.8 acre property was donated by International Paper to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and is entrusted to Maine Youth Fish and Game.

The facility is a perfect location to conduct activities for children and families. I often fantasize about how great it would be to have a facility like Pickerel Pond in every region of Maine. The board works hard to raise funds and organize community events such as an open water fishing event in the spring and an ice fishing event in the winter.

I recently instructed at the 5th Annual Youth Summer Camp, a week-long day camp for area children to experience outdoor activities such as fishing, archery, wildlife and fisheries biology, map and compass, shooting sports, ATV operation, GPS, outdoor cooking, recreational boating and paddle sports. Children also have the oppor-



tunity to visit a forestry management operation, see a K9 demonstration by the Maine Warden Service and have a tour of Sunkhaze Meadows with Fisheries Biologist Nels Kramer. This was my 5th summer instructing the fishing portion of the camp and I had a blast! The kids had a great time learning how to identify Maine's most common species of freshwater fish, about freshwater fish habitat and biology, fishing equipment, casting and safety skills and most importantly - the art of landing a nice big brookie!

I'm also a board member at Maine Youth Fish and Game, and like all of the members I am dedicated to encouraging, teaching and reinforcing experiences associated with the joys of hunting, fishing, trapping and participating in the great outdoors.

Maine Youth Fish and Game Association is a true example of what can be accomplished by a community. I hope the success of the association will provide inspiration for other communities and organizations in Maine to start their own chapter, and help carry on the important work of passing on the traditions of conserving and enjoying our natural resources to future generations.

If you have the opportunity, visit Pickerel Pond with your family. To learn more about MYFGA, visit www.maine-youth-fish-and-game.org



Too cool!
**KIDS ONLY
 FISHING
 PONDS**



Photos by Emily Jones
**MDIF&W Regional Fisheries Biologist
 Nels Kramer (top) and Game Warden
 Dave Georgia (left) teach young anglers
 how to identify fish -- and catch them.**

Too Cool! KIDS ONLY FISHING PONDS

Places to call their own



ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY

- Pettingill Park Pond, Auburn

AROOSTOOK COUNTY

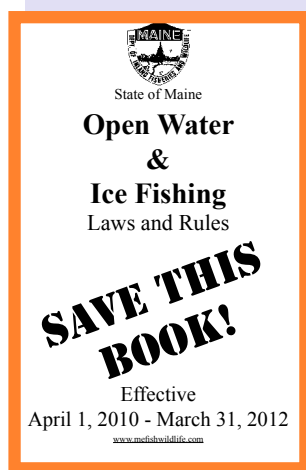
- Aroostook River* (portion of)
- Hannington Pond, Reed Plantation
- Mantle Lake, Presque Isle
- Pearce Brook (portion of), Houlton
- Rock Crusher Pond

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

- Aldens Pond, Gorham
- Coffin Pond, Brunswick
- Lower Hinckley Pond, South Portland
- Stevens Brook (Cemetery Brook), New Gloucester

FRANKLIN COUNTY

- Carrabassett River* (portion of), Kingfield
- Haley Pond Outlet, Rangeley
- Toothaker Pond, Phillips (ice fishing only)
- Wilson Stream* (portion of), Wilton



*** PLEASE
SEE LAWBOOK
LISTING FOR
WATERBODY
DETAILS ON
STREAM
AND RIVER
SECTIONS
WITH
YOUTH ONLY
FISHING
REGULATIONS.**

HANCOCK COUNTY

- Pickerel Pond, T32 MD
(Maine Youth Fish & Game Association)

OXFORD COUNTY

- Abbott Brook, Mexico
- Aunt Hannah Brook* (portion of), Dixfield

- Billy Brook, Brownfield
- Magalloway River, Bangor
- Lincoln Plt
- Penneseewasee (No...
(portion of), Norway

PENOBSCOT COUNTY

- Cold Stream* (portion of)
- Giles Pond, Patten
- Jerry Pond, Millinocket
- Johnny Mack Brook, Bangor
- Little Round Pond (D...
30), Lincoln
- Mattagodus Stream*,
Springfield
- Mill Stream (outlet of
Lake), Dexter
- Rocky Brook, Lincoln

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY

- Drummond Pond, Bangor
- Dunham Brook (incl...
Pond), Dover-Foxcroft



eld
g* (portion of),
rway) Lake Outlet*
y
on of), Enfield
et
Orono
Dec. 1 through April
* (portion of),
f Little Wassookeag
n
Y
obott (ice fishing only)
uding Kiwanis Park
ft

SAGADAHOC COUNTY

- Swan Island (Stephen Powell WMA), Richmond

SOMERSET COUNTY

- Kennebec River* (portions of), West Forks/Forks Plantation, Bingham/Concord, Madison/Starks
- Mill Stream* (portion of), Embden
- Tibbetts Pond, Concord Township

WASHINGTON COUNTY

- Meyers Pond, North Columbia
- Meyers Pond, South Columbia
- Middle River* (portion of), Marshfield
- Unnamed Pond (Foxhole Pond), Deblois

YORK COUNTY

- Leavitt Brook, Limerick
- Round Pond, Lyman
- Wilcox Pond, Biddeford

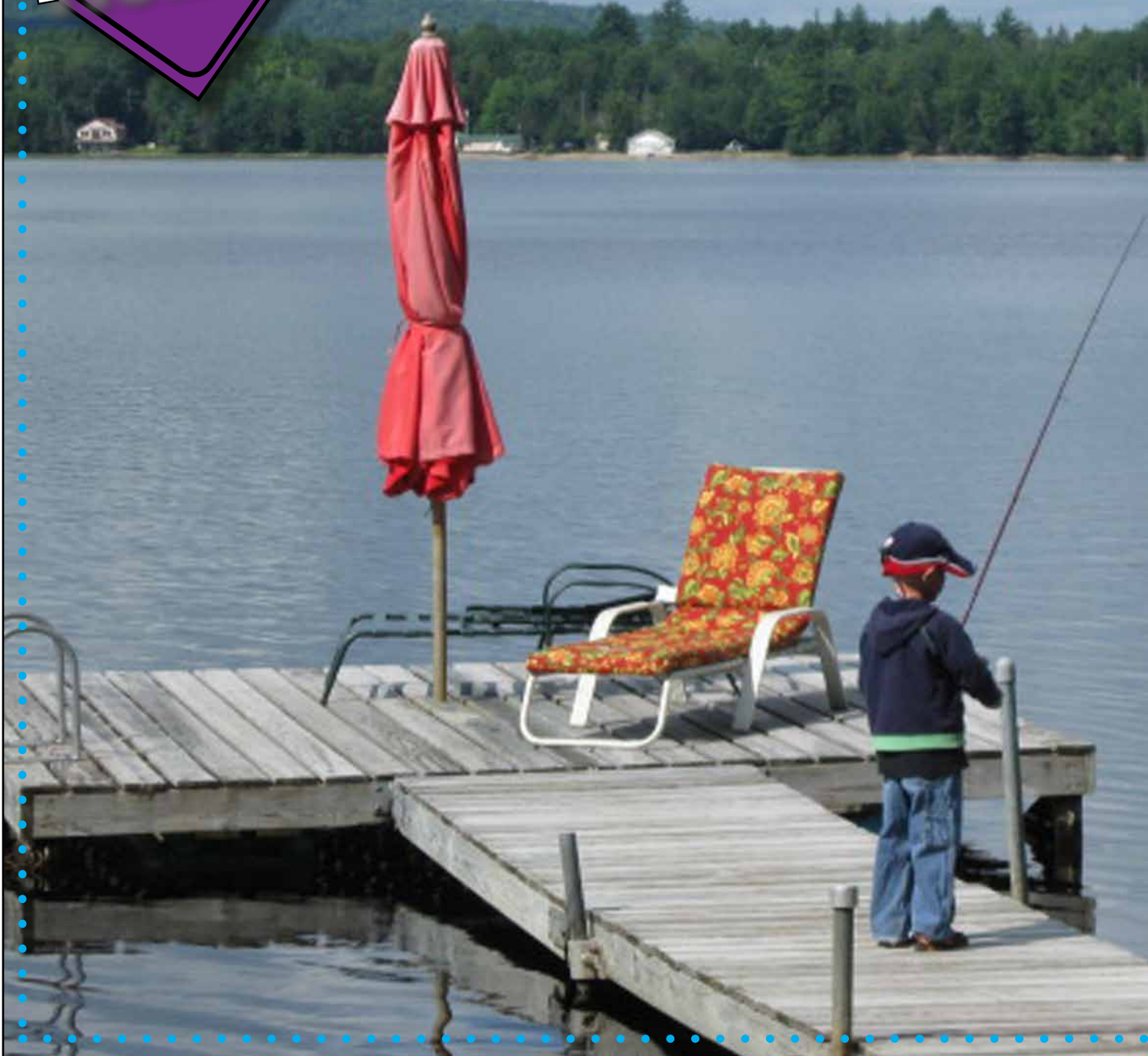


Too Cool!

KIDS FISHING

CASTING OFF!

Taking Little



Cooper "Little Man" Barrett, son of MDIF&W Public Relations Rep. Travis Barrett, tries his hand once again at fishing. To help in introducing kids to fishing, MDIF&W Youth Activities Coordinator Emily Jones suggests starting out at a dock or from a boat. Kids don't feel confined, which can lead to boredom.

Little Man on a 'fishing' trip



Photo by Travis Barrett

... fishing with his Dad, this time from a dock. When intro-
... n the shore, instead of a boat, so the young anglers

Little Man is probably not going to grow up to be the next Lefty Kreh, Kevin Van Dam or even that fictitious character played by Brad Pitt in "A River Runs Through It" whose rod skills were strong enough it seemed to land a trout in a sandbox.

"He's six years old," my wife, Sara, reminds me when I head off to the kitchen to pout, stewing upon returning from a "fishing" trip with Little Man that saw me do a lot more "fishing" and him a lot more "paddling."

"He's developing his own interests now. You have to remember that it's OK for him to find other things – he's making friends, he's finding his independence. What's important is that you took him, not what happened while you were out there."

Well, I'll tell you what happened while we were out there...

After two days of planning on going fishing, Little Man didn't want to fish. In 20 minutes he spent more time insisting on the changing of lures, untangling line from low-flying branches and trying to spin the canoe around the anchor line when I wasn't paying attention than he did actually casting.

After watching me land a small largemouth bass and plop it back in the water, he proclaimed he really didn't want to fish anymore.

"I really just want to paddle around," he said.

OK, I told him, paddle away. That's fine.

That worked for a few minutes. Until he heard the sirens roaring through town.

"What is going ON up there?" he asked.

I gulped.

"It's the town's Memorial Day parade," I said, cowering into a defensive position.

"Like a candy one, where they throw all that candy to you?"

Yeah, that's the one, I thought.

"Well, I want to go."

"I thought you wanted to go fishing," I reminded him.

"I want to go to the parade," he said.

"We're fishing."



Travis Barrett
[inlandtracks.
wordpress.com](http://inlandtracks.wordpress.com)

Continued on Page 12

Continued from Page 11

"Parade."

"Fishing."

"Parade." This time louder and more insistent.

"Fishing."

All I got in return was an icy glare and a head shake before he refocused his attention off the bow of the canoe.

Even the sport of hooking into a chain pickerel – one small enough to be mistaken for a weed – wasn't enough to battle the sirens. Then he threw me another curveball.

"You know in the Sixth World what I learned?"

I knew right where this was headed. "Are we talking about Super Mario Bros. now?"

"Yeah."

"Can we not talk about video games while we're fishing? Isn't that one of the rules out here?"

Apparently it fell into the category of "unwritten rule," which to a six-year-old means "not a rule at all."

Of course, then he was hungry. And thirsty. And tired. And ready to leave.

I knew that it was time to paddle back before disaster really ensued.

As we dragged the canoe up the grassy banking to the car, he took off his life jacket to reveal the fishing vest below.

"Huh," he chuckled to himself. "Why did I even wear this thing? That's funny."

Yeah, I thought. 'Huh. That IS funny.'

Driving through town, we turn the corner at the stoplight. I heard an audible sigh from the backseat.

I looked back at Little Man.

"What?" he demanded. "What?"

"What are you sighing about?"

He just smiled and looked away. If anyone else had been with us, I'd have bet them a whole dollar-fifty that he was holding out hope we'd make it back for the end of the parade.

I spent the next two hours moping around the house, puttering around – mowing the lawn, putting clothes and gear away, watching mindless television. It was a big ol' feeling-sorry-for-numero-uno festival.

That's when my wife intervened with her pep talk about a Little Man finding his own inde-



Samantha Barrett, daughter of MDIF&W Public Relations Rep. Travis Barrett, displays the Redbreast Sunfish she caught recently while fishing with her father.

pendence. I muttered something awful about him finding it on a long walk home by himself.

She looked at me, much the same way he had from the front of the canoe.

She shrugged her shoulders and left the room. I continued sulking.

Turns out, it wasn't all bad.

At the dinner table that night, feasting on a Memorial Day cookout of corn on the cob, cilantro-seasoned steaks and fresh cut home-

made fries, all is forgiven. Little Man, for years has been to as

"best" and "worst" parts of the state. "What was your best part?" my wife asks Little Man, who shrugs and then smiles.

He turns his head to me. "Going fishing with Dad."

Maybe the kid has a future in all.

REELING YOU IN!

It's simple! Here's how to get your kids 'Hooked on Fishing'

Let me start by saying I highly respect my co-worker Travis Barrett — but when I read his blog post, "Taking Little Man on a 'Fishing' Trip," I knew we needed to have a chat.

No, I'm not a parent. But during the past six years working as the state's Hooked on Fishing coordinator I have certainly fished with a lot of children and even more certain: I've learned a few things.

The truth is Travis made some very common mistakes in planning his fishing trip with Little Man, mistakes I've heard about from many parents. If you're one of them then keep reading — these are some of my (hard) lessons learned about introducing children to the sport of fishing.

First, understand that fishing with children is not the same as fishing with your buddies. The trip needs to be completely about them. In fact, I recommend you leave your fishing equipment at home so you can focus solely on assisting them with their own.

Keep it simple. Use a basic spincasting rod/reel combo such as a good ol' Zebco 22. Look for one with a smaller reel so their hands can comfortably control the "button" to release the line. Fish with a bobber, a hook and a worm and target species such as perch, bass, crappie or other pan fish that are often easy to catch and abundant. Save the trout fishing for a trip later on.

Travis took Little Man fishing in a boat — don't do that — at least not on your first few trips. Make it a shore thing. If you fish on shore kiddos have the freedom to move around

and don't feel isolated or confined, which will surely lead to boredom quickly. If they want to take a break, let them take a break! Chase butterflies, tadpoles, splash in the water; if they're having fun in the outdoors then the trip is a success.

Make sure you teach skills. Allow them to do as much of the work as they are willing or able to do. Teach them how to put the worm on the hook, how to cast properly and accurately, and even how to handle their fish. If they are game right away, make sure you explain what you're doing while they watch. If they're really not interested then take a break and go throw a frisbee around for a minute.

The goal is that eventually they will have the skills and independence to enjoy fishing on their own.

Stress the importance of safety. Teach them to look around before each cast and always be aware of where their hook is. Also, I suggest making sure you both wear a hat with visor and eye protection (sunglasses or youth size shooting glasses work great). It's not a bad idea to have them wear a PFD even on shore if they're nervous around the water or they are not a strong swimmer.

Most importantly, be relaxed and make it fun. As you head out leave behind the tension and take along an open mind and a lot of patience. Don't measure the success of your trip by the number of casts made or fish caught. Remember to praise children for their patience and cooperation and do what you need to do to make the day a positive memory even if that means stopping for an ice cream on the way home (or a parade for some candy as the case may be).

I know Travis and Little Man have many fishing trips ahead — maybe I'll even be invited one of these days. I hope you take the opportunity to head outdoors this weekend with a young person in your life and discover all there is to benefit from fishing as a family.



Emily Jones
mainefamilyoutside.wordpress.com

Photo by Travis Barrett
Travis Barrett, proudly
with her Dad.

...n. Our nightly routine
...sk the kids what their
...s of the day were.
...part of the day?" my
...o sips his fruit punch

...ne.
...d," he beams.
...uture in this sport after

Too Cool!
KIDS
QUIZ

Maine Fish. Do you know them?



A ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



B ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



C ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



D ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



E ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



F ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



G ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



H ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



I ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?



J ☐ W ☐ C ☐ N?

MATCH FISH WITH IT

___ ARCTIC CHARR ___ BLACK CRAPPIE ___ BROOK TROUT ___ BROWN TROUT
___ BROWN BULLHEAD ___ CHAIN PICKEREL ___ CUSK ___ LAKE WHITEFISH
___ LANDLOCKED SALMON ___ LARGEMOUTH BASS ___ MUSKELLUNGE

Know them?

FISH SPECIES ITS NAME

___NORTHERN PIKE ___PUMPKINSEED SUNFISH ___RAINBOW SMELT
___RAINBOW TROUT ___REDBREAST SUNFISH ___SMALLMOUTH BASS
___SPLAKE ___TOGUE ___WHITE PERCH ___YELLOW PERCH

DIRECTIONS:

Answers: Pages 45-47.

K Match fish to name by placing letter next to name in the box. **N?** Check box if fish is native to Maine.

W **C** Does fish live in warmwater (w) or coldwater (c)?



K ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



Q ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



L ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



R ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



M ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



S ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



N ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



O ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



T ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



P ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**



U ☐ **W** ☐ **C** ☐ **N?**

Fishing in Maine

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU FIND?

WORDS MAY BE FORWARDS,
BACKWARDS OR DIAGONAL.
(ANSWERS ON PAGE 45)

ALEWIFE	NET
BASS	OUTDOORS
BIOLOGIST	PICKEREL
BROOK TROUT	POND
BULLHEAD	SALMON
CUSK	SPLAKE
FAMILY	STREAM
FINS	SUNFISH
FISHING POLE	TACKLE
FUN	TOGUE
HATCHERY	WARDEN
LAKE	WHITE PERCH
LICENSE	WHITEFISH
LURE	



The Basics

FLY FISHING: Although fly fishing takes a lot of practice, a well-executed cast can fool a fish into thinking that your fly is the real thing! The first step is to lift the rod tip sharply so that the line will loop up and over your shoulder. As the line straightens behind you, bring the rod sharply forward and the line will follow. This will pull the leader and gently place it and the fly on the water. pull the line from the reel with your other hand, before and during casting, to obtain the length of line that you desire.

CASTING: Spin-casting is achieved by keeping the line tight on the reel until the lure is brought back and then whipped forward by the rod tip. As the tackle begins its forward motion, let go of the thumb release on the reel and the line will be pulled off, moving towards your target.

-- FROM KIDBITS, MAINE FISH AND WILDLIFE MAGAZINE, SPRING 1981

Too Cool! KIDS ACTIVITIES



Did You Know?

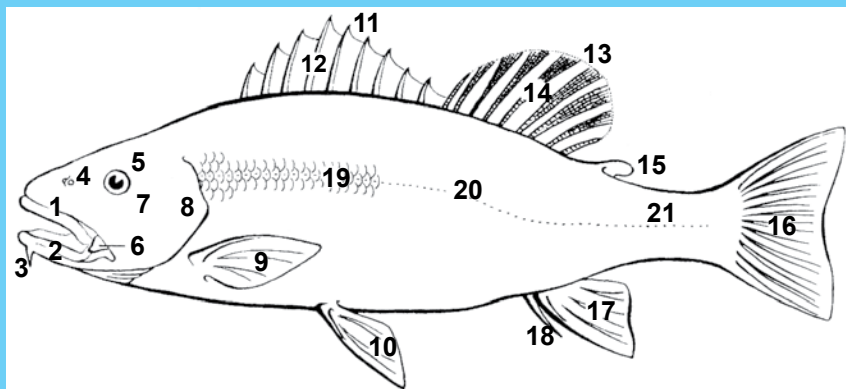


Many fish are shaped like a torpedo and that shape helps them to glide through water.



Are you 1? Are you 2? Are you 30?

In some Maine waters, togue (lake trout) have lived to be 30 years old.



Check Me Out!

Generalized fish indicating characters commonly used in identifying fish

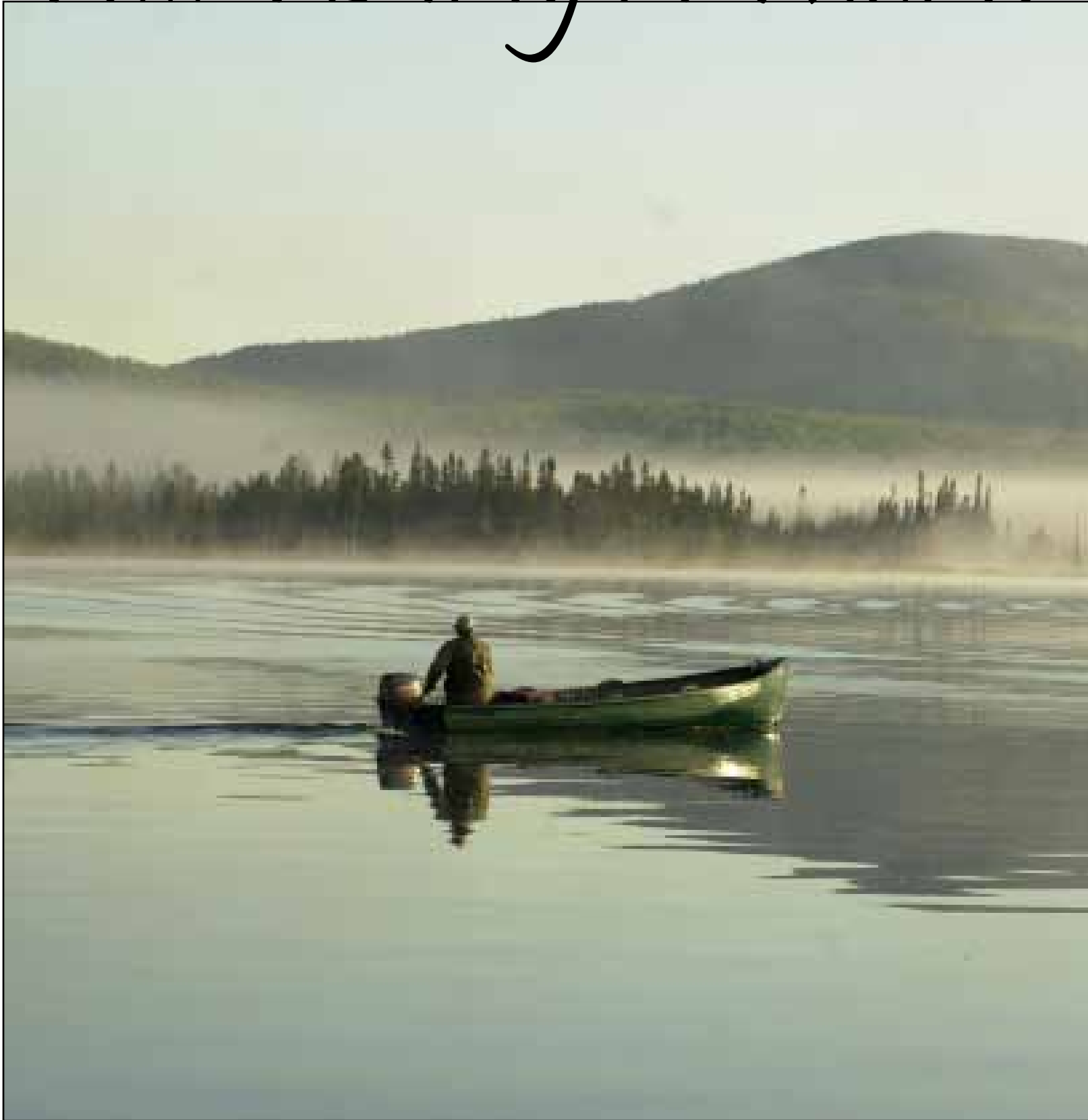
- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Upper Jaw (premaxillary and maxillary bones) | 11. Spiny dorsal fin |
| 2. Lower jaw (dentary bone) | 12. Fin spine |
| 3. Barbel | 13. Soft dorsal fin |
| 4. Nostril | 14. Fin ray |
| 5. Eye | 15. Adipose fin |
| 6. Maxillary barbel | 16. Caudal fin |
| 7. Cheek | 17. Anal fin |
| 8. Bony gill cover | 18. Anal spine |
| 9. Pectoral fin | 19. Lateral line scales |
| 10. Ventral fin | 20. Lateral line |
| | 21. Caudal peduncle |

Try This At Home!



Backyard Bass is a fun way to practice casting at home or camp! A starter kit can be purchased from [Ironwood Pacific](#) for \$9.95 plus shipping. Proceeds support the [Future Fisherman Foundation](#).

Fall Fishing in Maine



Early-morning fog begins to lift as an angler takes advantage of calm waters and fall's cool temperatures to fish.



Unique angling opportunities exist when summer ends

By Travis Barrett

MDIF&W Public Relations Representative

The rewards of late-summer fishing are usually measured in the sizzle of perch fillets on a hot skillet, carved into slender bite-sized pieces. With a side of fresh vegetables tossed from straight from your garden into a salad bowl, it's what we've come to understand as the tasty side of late-season fishing in Maine.

Throughout central and southern Maine regions, summer and early autumn have long belonged to the bass and panfish sect. Warmwater species, of course, are more active in warmer water. It's simple biology.

But biology in and of itself isn't so simple.

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife fisheries biologists across the state say that if you're missing the opportunity to fish in August and September, you might be missing the best opportunities to fish -- period.

"After the summer dies down and all the tourists have gone home, it can feel like a whole different world out there," said Francis Brautigam, a regional fisheries biologist in the Gray region. "A place like Sebago Lake -- which is very busy and gets a lot of pressure during the year -- can feel like a whole different place at this time of year.

"It's a wonderful experience out there. If more people experienced it like that, they'd probably start taking advantage of the opportunity more."

While it's true that bass and perch fishing remains a staple for anglers for most of August, it's not as though nothing remains for trout and salmon fishermen. In fact, the most productive fishing for lake trout (or "togue") occurs as August turns to September.

Nels Kramer, regional fisheries biologist in Enfield, said when the conditions present themselves,

Continued on Page 20



Fly-fishing in late summer and early fall present opportunities for catching more than just warmwater species, with angling up as the weather cools down. (Right) Scott Davis holds up a pair of smallmouth bass caught on the same lure on the

Continued from Page 19

the togue will reward anglers.

"For the so-called 'dog days' of summer, it's true that most people are going perch fishing and sports are going bass fishing," Kramer said. "But togue fishermen are right in their element right now. At this time of year, you get those calm days on the water, and you can drop your spoon (lure) right on the bottom and have great luck fishing for togue that way."

Keeping a keen eye on subtle changes in weather can also make a difference, something hardcore anglers already know.

As air and water temperatures cool, trout and landlocked salmon behavior changes. Trout begin feeding more regularly, while salmon begin the spawning process.

With so many wild brook trout waters in and around the Moosehead Lake region,

Tim Obrey said that anglers need to be patient when it comes for late-summer opportunities. But if it is, in fact, true that all good things come to those who wait, then the regional fisheries biologist for the Moosehead region says there's a big payoff at the end of the year on the West Branch of the Penobscot River.

"The landlocked salmon fishing out of Chesuncook Lake -- or to a lesser degree -- Lobster Stream -- during the last two weeks of September is pretty unbelievable," Obrey said. "It's a great float trip. It's only eight or 10 miles by boat, but it's primarily a camping trip.

"It's camping. It's cold weather. It's fog on the river in the morning. It's all of that -- and it's pretty unique and the fishing is pretty good, too."

New, more liberal fishing regulations introduced this season haven't affected the Moosehead area the way they have other places as IFW continues to care-

fully manage the riverine systems there to protect wild salmonid populations. But in other parts of the state, open-water fishing is available year-round, giving fishermen opportunities this year they haven't enjoyed before.

Kramer points to places like Hale Pond, Island Pond, Davis Pond or Oxhead Lake as bodies of water where stocking efforts have been increased with new laws in mind.

"Previously, we obviously had a lot of ponds we stocked," Kramer said. "But we've really adjusted our management stocking (plans) to make sure that fish are available in some of those traditional places at this time of year.

"I think that most people might be aware of the new laws, but I don't think they've quite gotten the big picture of just how much additional opportunity has been created. It's mind-boggling when you really stop and look at it."



Photos by Travis Barrett
Angling for stocked salmonid species picks up on the Sebasticook River in late summer.

Brautigam agrees.

"Because we're in a milder region than some other parts of the state, we've got the opportunity here to create some fall fisheries that many regions simply couldn't do," Brautigam said. "It's partially climate-driven, but it's also partly resource-driven."

Places like the Ogunquit River use a tidewater stocking program to provide a very specific -- and popular -- sea-run fishery for brown trout. The Saco River and the Presumpscot River do the same, and they are open year-round to anglers.

Even more "traditional" stocking programs for brook trout and salmon on places like Sebago Lake continue to provide active fall fishing, even as September later rolls into October.

"Most of our lakes and streams, there are mature fish in these systems moving around and looking to spawn," Brautigam said. "Some of the people that take



advantage of this time of year, they really see a ton of action.

"This is the one time of year where you can expect to go out and have a shot at those fish in that 2- to 6-pound class. There's some browns, some salmon -- and fishermen (in the fall) pretty much have it all to themselves."

Part of the reason for angling success in September and October has as much to do with conventional wisdom as it does fisheries management. Despite the chance to have first crack at fish stocked by the Department each autumn in advance of ice fishing seasons, most outdoorspeople have shifted their thoughts from fishing to hunting.

With the exception of a few dedicated fishermen each autumn, our lakes, ponds

and streams are desolate. It begs a simple question -- why not spend a morning duck or bird hunting and then spend an afternoon on the water fishing when the sun warms things up? New regulations, for the most part, have provided that chance.

"It's a natural drift from the angling scene to the hunting scene at that time of year, and it's the same way for me," Brautigam said. "I think that's why we see the (fall fishing) the way we do. You just do not see high angling pressure at this time of year.

"Virtually all of our brown and most of our rainbow trout -- and all of our catchable brook trout -- they are all stocked in the fall. That's the other bonus to anglers interested in fishing in the fall."

Living **ON THE EDGE**

White-Tailed Deer at the Northern Range Limit

HOW DO DEER SURVIVE WINTER?

By Joe Wiley

MDIF&W Wildlife Biologist, Augusta

The white-tailed deer has developed a remarkable set of adaptations that enable the species to survive the deep snow and cold temperatures that occur in Maine, the northern limit of their range in North America. The white-tailed deer found here in the Northeast is one of the three northernmost of 16 subspecies. It is also the largest of the white-tail subspecies. Deer do not occur in viable numbers north of the St. Lawrence River.

Northern deer have larger body size than deer further south. This is true of all mammals, in that body size increases as you progress northward. Large body size conserves energy better because of a lower surface to mass ratio.

Deer shed their hair coat in the spring and fall. The red summer hair has solid shafts and lacks an undercoat, but the gray-brown winter coat has hollow hair shafts and a dense, wool-like under fur, providing effective insulation. Deer have special muscles that can adjust the angle of their hair shafts to obtain maximum insulation.

During the fall, deer accumulate and store body fat under their skin and around internal organs. This serves both

PROGRAMS

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife works with Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine to offer deer wintering area managing programs through SWOAM chapter events.

This article appeared as a three-part series in SWOAM's newsletter earlier this year.

as insulation and energy reserve for the rigors of the winter ahead. Fat reserves can be up to 30 percent of body mass of adult does in the fall. The natural winter diet is lower in protein and less digestible than the summer diet, requiring more energy to digest and resulting in fewer calories. This translates into a "voluntary" reduction of feed intake through the winter, particularly in late winter. The stored fat is burned during winter to partially compensate for the lack of energy in the winter diet. Deer normally lose weight during the winter even when fed a free choice, high protein diet.

These adaptations are designed for the conservation of energy. Deer go into the winter with a full tank of gas (fat reserves) not knowing how long the jour-

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ney will be. If deep snow and bitter winds start early or persist late into spring, some deer will run out of gas (fat reserves) and die. The greatest mortality is experienced by fawns, followed by adult bucks and then does. Severe winters can significantly deplete the fawn crop, resulting in drastically reduced recruitment into the population. These effects can be seen for many years in reduced numbers in the age class data. Consecutive severe winters can reduce recruitment by 90 percent, resulting in drastically reduced summer densities.

Deer behavior also changes in the fall, as family groups of deer congregate into larger groups made up of mostly adult does and fawns born the previous June (kin groups). These groups seek protection from wind and reduced snow depths by moving to sheltered areas, which comprise of 5 to 15 percent of their summer range. These movements occur in late November through December. Northern deer are known to travel up to 40 miles between their summer range and winter range, but 5 to 10 miles is more typical. Mature bucks seek out these areas after mid-December when their testosterone levels start to drop after the rut.

This important winter habitat provides several benefits, such as dense softwood canopies that intercept more snow, providing reduced snow depths. Congregating in these areas also allow many deer to share the energy cost of maintaining a trail network to access cover and food and to escape predation.

These and other benefits provide critical "deer yard" habitat deer need to survive Maine's winters.

WHAT IS A DEER WINTERING AREA?

By Chuck Hulsey

MDIF&W Regional Wildlife Biologist, Strong Office

Deer Wintering Areas (DWAs) or "deer yards" are a critical habitat for white-tailed deer living at the northern end of their range. A DWA is the habitat where deer go to avoid harsh winter winds and deep snow. During a winter of average severity, a deer living in southern Maine will require this shelter for 30 to 50 days. In far northern Maine dependency is usually 100 to 110 days.

Quality winter shelter occurs where certain landforms and forest stands meet. The former is less understood and underappreciated, but equally important as the type of conifer trees growing on a site. Let's look at each separately.

THE VALUE OF LANDFORM

Most DWAs are within or near the riparian areas associated with lakes, ponds, rivers, or streams. A 'Reader's Digest' definition of a riparian area is an upland or wetland type associated with a watercourse that is affected by the hydrology of that watercourse. Keep in mind that there are many wetland classifications, including forested wetlands where not only could a duck



Photo by Clemens Nolke, via Flickr; Used with permission.

not swim, but you might not even get your sneakers muddy in the summer.

Valley bottoms, landscape depressions, aspect, and lower side-slopes provide protection from cold winds. You've experienced firsthand the relief of standing behind a building or big tree when the temperature is low and the wind is blowing. Warm bodies exposed to cold wind lose heat rapidly. Subsequently, like adding wood to a fireplace in a drafty camp, more calories are burned to maintain a deer's core temperature when exposed to wind. In the north the most daunting challenge for deer survival is to make it through the wintering period with enough fuel left in the tank. Protection from cold wind equates to reducing the rate at which calories are burned.

In the northern half of Maine, soils associated with riparian areas are often shallow, stony, , poorly drained; or all three. Trees are aggressive life-forms that have evolved to exploit specific conditions associated with soils (site), water, and sunlight. Success is not measured just in rings of growth per inch, but more important to the species, the ability to occupy and dominate a site. Regenerating one's own kind may be the ultimate measure of a tree's success. Cedar, spruce, fir, and to a lesser degree hemlock, are species that are very successful competitors on poorer soils often occurring in and adjacent to riparian habitat. The foliage structure of these trees is also superior to others in intercepting wind and snowfall.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF FOREST COVER

A forest stand is a group of trees of same or similar species, age, height, or canopy closure. Stands dominated by cedar, spruce, fir, or hemlock are by far the best at intercepting snow, when they are over 35 feet tall and have canopy or crown closure over 50 percent. Snow depths under such stands can be 40 percent lower than under hardwood stands with similar characteristics. This is because their leaves (needles) intercept falling



Photo by Chuck Hulse

Former Plum Creek forester Kirk MacDonald walking in a cedar-dominated Primary Winter Shelter (PWS) stand within the Pierce Pond Stream DWA. This stand was lightly commercially thinned about 12 years before this picture was taken. In the foreground are stumps from a much older harvest.

snowflakes, Three things can happen to snow caught in the treetops. Some snow will still come down to the ground. Some snow will melt, coming down as a liquid and reduce the snow profile. Last, some snow held in the canopy goes directly back to the atmosphere as a vapor.

The behavior of "yarding" or congregating in large overwintering groups results in each deer contributing towards the development of a network of trails. Using a trail vs. traversing alone through the snow is a major energy savings. Think back to when you have trudged or snowshoed solo through deep snow. It can range from tough to exhausting, depending on your condition. Compare that to when you were with a group, at the back of the line and easing along a trail beaten down by others. For deer, this is the difference between life and death. In addition to conserving energy, adult deer know their network of trails like you know the streets in your neighborhood. So in addition to energy conservation, the network of beaten trails helps deer ac-



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cess browse and avoid predators. Probably because of the value of trails, larger DWAs with inherent higher number of winter inhabitants equates to a higher rate of survival.

The best DWAs have a minimum of half their area in stands providing high quality conifer shelter for the tough months of January and February. Some of the DWA should be in younger stands to replace older shelter stands through time. A representation of mixed softwood-hardwood stands provides a winter food source by way of hardwood browse. During the start and end of the wintering period (December and March) these stands can meet minimal shelter requirements, and at the same time be a source of natural food. Managing the spatial relationship of these stands over time is vital, as deer cannot survive if they use more calories in transit than they gain in the meal.

MANAGING DEER WINTERING AREAS

By Chuck Hulse

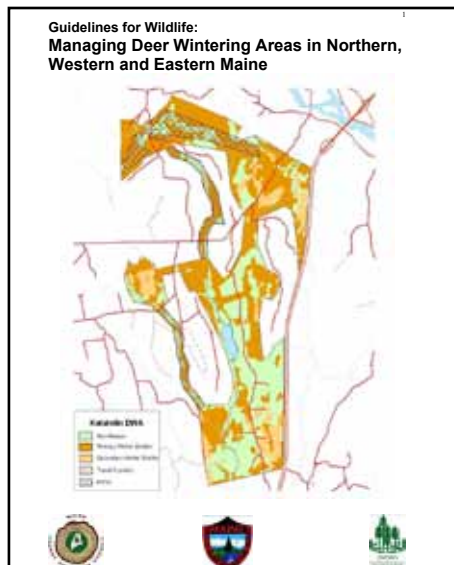
MDIF&W Regional Wildlife Biologist, Strong Office

Maintaining sufficient winter shelter for deer is primarily an exercise in forest management. A deer wintering area (DWA) is the habitat where deer go to find protection from deep snow and cold wind. When the right landform meets the right assemblage of forest stands, the majority of deer can survive a typical Maine winter. Landowners large and small can and do play an essential role in providing, maintaining, and managing this critical winter wildlife habitat.

Before jumping into "Forestry-For-Deer 101," let's acknowledge that Maine is a geographical mixing zone for our two members of the deer family. We sit where the southern end of the moose's range and the northern end of the white-tail's meet. There are biological, environmental, even evolutionary reasons why the range of these species does not extend farther. A basic ecological principle comes into play in that similar species will not compete for the exact same resource. Because Maine happens to be near the terminus of each range, moose are a bit over-engineered and deer under-engineered for Maine winters. They generally do not coexist over the majority of each other's range.

To cope with winter, deer assemble in groups (yarding) within forests dominated by stands of spruce, fir, cedar or hemlock. Such stands must be tall enough and dense enough to intercept the snowfall and wind. The best DWAs include sufficient quality conifer cover and a component of mixed hardwood-softwood stands, either as inclusions among cover stands or adjacent to cover stands. Hardwood browse and canopy litterfall are important natural foods, however they are low in nutritional value compared to food available during the spring, summer and fall.

Deer cannot increase or even maintain body weights throughout a typical Maine winter. Browse intake is important to survival and serves to slow down the rate of weight loss. Shelter and the



LEARN MORE!

**The 9-page publication
Guidelines for Wildlife:
Managing Deer Wintering
Areas in Northern, Western,
and Eastern Maine
is available online by
selecting the link above
or by contacting the
Maine Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
at 284 State St.,
Augusta, ME 04333**

use of trails created and maintained by numbers of deer serve to conserve calories. The juxtaposition of cover and food is important simply because deer cannot burn more calories getting to food than the calories provided by that food. To that end, the spatial relationship of new harvests, current shelter, future shelter, and browse availability are important considerations in long-term forest management planning.

The best DWAs have at least 50 percent of the acreage in stands comprised of what we call Primary Winter Shelter (PWS) and Secondary Winter Shelter (SWS). PWS stands are dominated by spruce, fir, cedar, or hemlock and are ≥ 35 feet in height with crown closures \geq

70 percent. Crown closure is the percentage of the sky blotted out by limbs and leaves when you look up through the canopy. These stands provide shelter during the most severe winter conditions. Unless overmature, a common stand treatment would be a light commercial thinning, applied as an improvement cut to increase stand growth, quality, and vigor.

SWS stands are similar except the crown closure is 50 percent to 70 percent. They provide shelter for all but the most severe conditions typical of the early and latter part of the wintering period. A PWS stand may become a SWS stand after a light commercial thinning, solely because the crown closure falls below 70 percent. If applied as an improvement cut, these stands can return to a PWS stand during the course of a typical cutting interval of 15 years. There is also the opportunity to maintain a high conifer component or increase the percentage of conifers over time.

With at least 50 percent of a DWA in PWS and SWS stands, the remaining stands can be in younger age-classes and/or stands with a mixture of hardwoods. Young stands may be the product of past land use or a prescribed regeneration treatment. These Non-Mature/Future Shelter Stands provide a source of



Photo by Thomas Long, via Flickr; Used with permission.

winter browse. They can be managed to increase their shelter attributes if the soil type favors conifers. Thinning over time can increase the softwood component of such stands. It is generally more challenging to regenerate conifers within a mixed-wood stand because conifers can only reproduce by seed (except pitch pine), whereas hardwood species reproduce both by seed and vegetatively by sprouting off stumps and root systems. In my experience managing DWAs I find that hardwood browse is a nearly automatic by-product any time a deciduous tree is cut, whereas regenerating species like spruce, cedar, and hemlock requires close attention to details, such as the timing of cone crops, volume removals, and some good luck.

There is no one-size-fits-all harvest prescription for DWAs. The starting point should be to assess what percentage of your land within the DWA provides PWS and SWS. Stand age, vigor, composition, and condition are important considerations. It is desirable to have a broad representation of stand age-classes, however the options available to an owner of 50 acres are different than an owner of 500 acres. If at the lower acreage end it would be good to know the condition of the DWA beyond your ownership. If less than half the DWA has PWS and SWS stands,

maintaining such stands on your property longer via light thinnings, might be best.

If a DWA has a lot more than 50 percent in older PWS or SWS, a harvest geared towards regenerating new stands would ensure that sufficient shelter comes on line in the near future. About one foot of growth per year of sites typical of DWAs is common, so it requires about 35 years for trees to reach the shelter stage.

Travel corridors serve to connect cover stands within a DWA, and often occur along watercourses. Check your municipal rules for harvesting near these areas. Generally, light thinning or using the single-tree or group selection method to 1) maintain the overstory, and 2) establishing conifer regeneration, is desirable as long as connectivity values are maintained.

Due to many factors, Maine has experienced a decline in the amount and quality of DWA habitat, especially in Northern, Western and Eastern Maine. It has become difficult to achieve deer population levels desired by the public. To that end, MDIF&W, the Maine Forest Products Council and SWOAM have collaborated to develop DWA management guidelines and make them available to all forest landowners. To obtain a copy, select the link on the previous page or write to the address in the box.



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Maine Warden Service Major Gregory Sanborn inspects a new FLIR camera system

*A surplus airplane is reborn
into a life-saving
search and rescue
and law enforcement tool
for the Maine Warden Service.*



Photos by Charlie Later and Regis Tremblay

em installed on a surplus military airplane that was refurbished by MWS pilots.

By Deborah Turcotte

MDIF&W Public Relations Representative

The phone call came in August 2007. An U.S. Air Force plane that had served its purpose for the military now was surplus goods – junk – but available if someone wanted it.

Only problem: You'd have to pick it up. In south Florida. Oh, and it might need some work before it could be air worthy.

Sitting in his Greenville office, Maine Warden Service Chief Pilot Charlie Later didn't have to think twice about it.

"I'll take it," he told the caller.

For years, Later tossed around the idea of having one plane specifically equipped with a night vision infrared camera system that could be used in search-and-rescue missions, conservation and drug law enforcement, and biological research studies. The camera system detects heat emitted from humans or animals, a useful tool when critical missions such as a search for a lost child or an Alzheimer's sufferer are time sensitive.

Historically, the Maine Warden Service had relied on the Maine National Guard to use its infrared system on searches,

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The Maine Warden Service's "Project Nighthawk" took almost three years to complete but now is fully operational. A surplus military plane was brought from south Florida to Greenville, where the work began in August 2007. Initially blue and white, body work included new paint to conform with Maine Warden Service colors, and engine and interior repairs. Representatives from FLIR Systems of Ohio, which sells infrared cameras for law enforcement use, installed the FLIR camera to the bottom of the plane, and provided training on the complicated system to wardens earlier this year. Wardens now use the system in search and rescue missions and other law enforcement details.







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but the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 forced a change in the Guard's operational duties and therefore limited Maine Warden Service access to that service.

With that one phone call, "Project Night Hawk" was launched. Getting the plane to Maine wasn't the biggest obstacle to overcome. Instead, it was getting the plane off the ground.

"I knew it would be a challenge, and I knew I could get it done," Later said. "In my mind, the biggest challenge – and I knew it would be – was to get the money for the repairs."

And for the \$270,000 camera system.

The airplane was free. A one-way plane ticket to south Florida raised eyebrows in the state's budget office, but Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Commissioner Roland "Danny" Martin was able to get the okay.

After a couple of days of tinkering with the plane, Later was able to fly it home. Over the next few years, and as funds became available, the plane would undergo the metamorphosis from junk to just right. Later and his fellow warden pilots, Dan Dufault and Daryl Gordon, would spend their free time making the necessary mechanical and structural

repairs to ensure the aircraft could handle flying in Maine's finicky and fierce weather conditions.

Two of the MWS pilots are certified aircraft mechanics, and the use of their expertise helped keep costs down. Additional financial support came from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund.

To purchase the camera, Later approached the Maine Emergency Management Agency with a grant proposal. He said MEMA "got right on board" with the idea, but couldn't open its wallet.

"They had no funding at that point," Later said. "I went away with a statement, 'Yeah, we know you love this and can really use this equipment, but we have no money.'"

MEMA, though, offered to work with the Maine Warden Service to find a solution. Eventually, all of the state's 16 county emergency management agencies pooled money that had not been used on other projects to fund the camera system's purchase.

While the Maine National Guard has its infrared camera capabilities, the Maine Warden Service's new FLIR system is the first of its kind owned and operated by the state of Maine. FLIR stands for "forward looking infrared," an aerial thermal imaging system that has the ability to produce video images



in darkness as well as daylight. Attached to the plane, the rotating camera can scan the landscape below to pick up heat sources and transfer the images onto a display. As one warden pilot flies the plane, another warden operates the camera system. Ground crews are notified of a find and are guided from the air to its location.

This technology currently is in use in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and in larger cities and metropolitan areas throughout the country.

In April, several game wardens and pilots were trained by FLIR, the international company that supplied the camera system. They were taught how to control the camera, how to zoom and track with it, and how to adjust for different lighting situations and exposures. FLIR has been used several times since then, but has had limited use in recent search-and-rescue efforts. The camera can search the surface of lakes and ponds, but is unable to detect a body in the waters' depths. Also, the plane cannot be flown in treacherous weather conditions.

But one day, a family will be reunited with a lost loved one because of the FLIR system. Later is sure of it.

"I'm confident we're going to have several finds with it," he said.



(Top) Maine Warden Service Chief Pilot Charlie Later speaks at a May press conference to unveil FLIR. Listening are Maine State Police Col. Pat Fleming, Maine Emergency Management Agency Deputy Director Ginnie Ricker, Maine Marine Patrol Sgt. Steve Inghram, and MDIF&W Commissioner Roland "Danny" Martin. (Above) Warden Jeremy Kemp navigates FLIR.

Game Warden Goes On Record About Maine Warden Service

By Deborah Turcotte

MDIF&W Public Relations Representative

Rick Clowry can count on one hand the number of instances that changed his life for the better – or, rather, as he looks back now, reassured him that he was on the right track.

The day, sometime before his 18th birthday, when his father, Floyd, handed him a guitar and he didn't know why. Soon the family's "campfire balladeer" would strum a few chords, pick a few strings and pray that music – and not noise – would come out of it.

After a few years of self instruction, he thought that maybe his father was telling him that he should become a professional musician. He tried. It didn't work out.

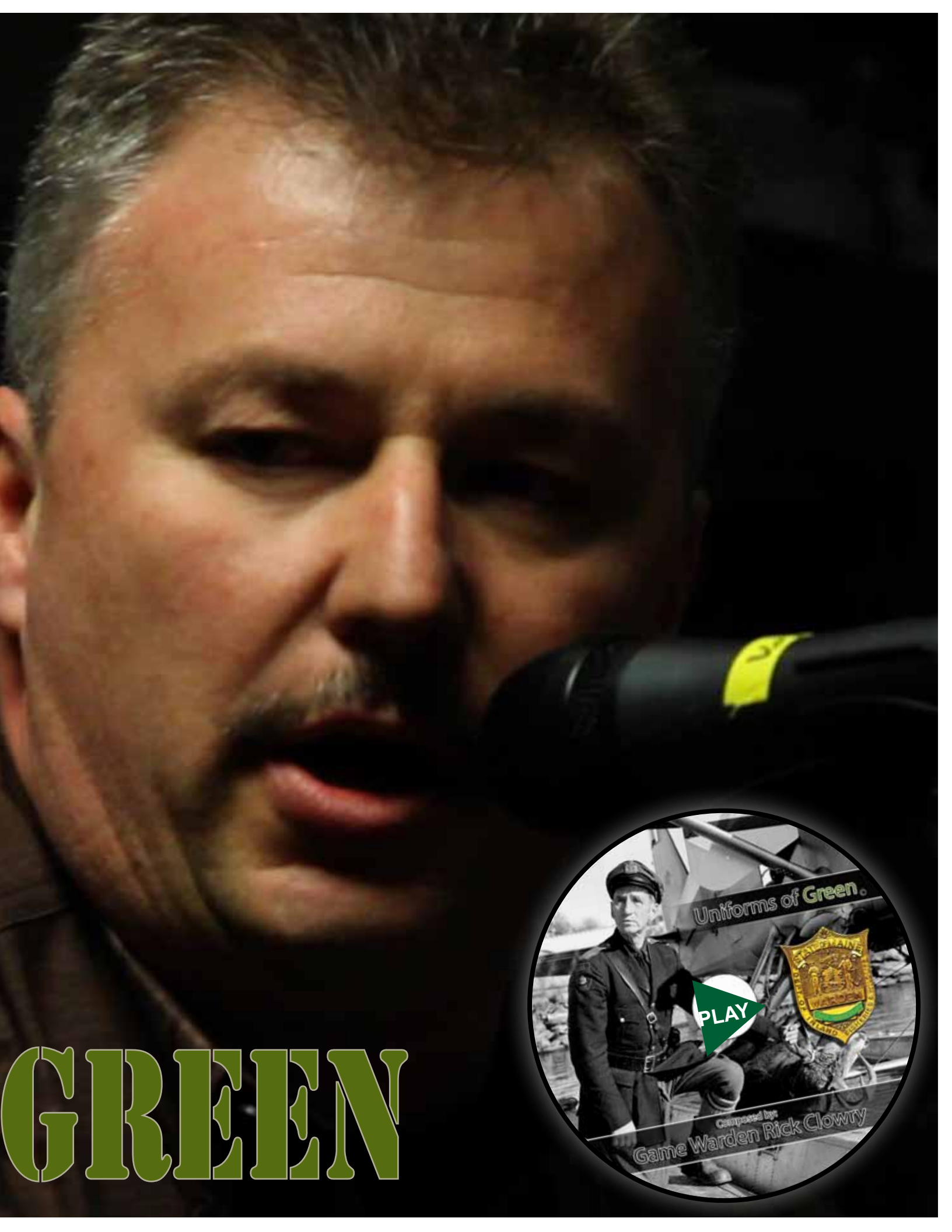
Clowry fell back on his family's business operating sporting camps in Eliotville. He'd guide or do odd jobs. But he felt it wasn't a career he could "sink my teeth into."

Then, one day, he met Don Annis, a retired game warden who Clowry said he admired but wouldn't dare compare himself to. He still wouldn't.

"Don said I was the epitome of who a game warden is," Clowry recalled. "That he would say that to me was a great influence, and I thought, 'maybe I could do this.'"

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UNIFORMS OF



GREEN



UNIFORMS OF GREEN *Lyrics*

VERSE 1

Some where in the dead of night
an old truck rolls along.
Down a quiet country road, where no house lights are on.
He slows beside the little field where he's seen a lot of sign
And with a light out the window he'll get one this time.
It only takes a moment; he's got a trophy in his sights. Some
where in the back
Of his mind he knows that it ain't right.
At the squeeze of the trigger it's already too late. Those blue
lights behind him
Guarantee a court date.

CHORUS

And we are Maine Game Wardens in districts across this land
in fields, forest
and water protecting what Maine has. In bitter cold or blind-
ing snow or winds
that often blow. We're out to catch a poacher and search for
a lost soul.



Rick Clowry and granddaughter Brielle

VERSE 2

He's tucked in on the shore of a remote great pond, trout are rising every where
Especially this dawn.
Two men come in to fish and they walk right by- soon the Warden will know if it
Will be worms or the fly.
They talk in quite whispers and decide to take all they can; they only get here once a year it seems like a
good plan
To these two it don't matter the size or amount. But the warden he is really close and he's keeping a run-
ning count.
And then a short ways up the trail, he boldly steps out, face to face with these two now he knows with
out a doubt that for a Maine Game
Warden today is a great day these two kept enough fish to take their licenses away

REPEAT CHORUS

VERSE3

It's a hot August afternoon the kids are in the back yard, mom watches from the window she's keeping
them from harm. But with
Supper on the stove she turns for a short while, the phone rings at the wardens house grab your gear we
got a lost child.
Because he's a local he's the first one on the scene, the young mom is beside herself her Childs name she
screams, please you gotta help me
Bring my baby back- down by the little brook - wardens have cut a track.
Now the planes are in the air - and the canines have arrived - just before the fall of dark the little girl they
find.
Fast asleep curled under a big old Pine tree.
She wakes to a doggy's kisses and uniforms of green.

BACK TO CHORUS



Photo by Paul Michaud

(From left) Lt. Adam Gormely, Game Warden Rick Clowry, and Col. Joel Wilkinson perform "Uniforms of Green" at the Maine Warden Service's 130th Anniversary Celebration in May.

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In 1995, Clowry joined the Maine Warden Service. Music remained a part of his life, but it wasn't his primary focus. That was family. And career.

Fast-forward to Sept. 25, 2006, the day family and career meet in a head-on crash of emotions.

"I know that date because it's the anniversary of the Maine Warden Service and it's the day my first grandchild Brielle was born," Clowry said.

That memorable day got him thinking about how to record his feelings as part of his family's scrapbook. And it all came together: music, job and family.

He put words on paper and music to the words. "Uniforms of Green" is the result, a folksy song about the duties of a Maine game warden, the people wardens encounter, and the reasons why Maine's natural resources are valuable not only today but for future generations.

And for his grandchildren.

"For me, I'm out here trying to protect the fish and game resources of our state for my grandchildren," Clowry said. "It's very personal. It's more important than just a day-to-day job."

Clowry now has a second grandchild, Drake. And a CD.

"I wanted this to be focused not just on what we do, but that we're a big part of Maine," Clowry said. "That's why I write songs, so everybody can listen to them and hear about game wardens in a different format."

Brielle and Drake are too little now to understand that their grandfather is a member of the Maine Warden Service, the state's oldest law enforcement agency, and what it means to wear a warden badge.

They don't know that during a celebration to mark the Maine Warden Service's 130th anniversary earlier this year, their grandfather, along with Col. Joel Wilkinson and Lt. Adam Gormely, debuted "Uniforms of Green."

Right now, Brielle enjoys it when her grandfather sings to her, and he smiles at her antics.

"She shakes her booty while I'm strumming away," he said. "She likes anything with a good beat."

One day, when she's older, she'll play her own copy of "Uniforms of Green."

She'll smile.

And maybe she'll shake her booty.

ALONZO H. GARCELON

SPECTACLE POND PROPERTY

Wondrous Wetlands

By Lisa Kane

MDIF&W Natural Sciences Educator

This pond and surrounding lands are a part of the Alonzo H. Garcelon Wildlife Management Area (WMA), which is approximately 4,454 acres centered around three locations in the towns of Augusta, Vassalboro and Windsor in Kennebec County. This article will focus on the Spectacle Pond section of this WMA.

The Spectacle Pond area consists of about 1,691 acres, and includes land formerly known as the Boy Scout Property. It is located north of Route 3, east of Church Hill Road, and west of Cross Hill Road in Augusta and Vassalboro. It borders Tolman, Dam and Spectacle ponds. The site consists of upland mature oak and beech woods, interspersed with small pond shore frontage, streams, vernal pools and beaver flowages.

The north end of Spectacle Pond had been purchased originally by the Department of Conservation (DOC) as a potential state park site, however, those plans never materialized. Those 280 acres were transferred to MDIF&W in 1994.

The access road into Spectacle Pond from the Church Hill Road is currently unmarked, but is roughly a half-mile north of the Stevens Road intersection (Maine Gazetteer Map 13, B1). It is generally passable by 4WD vehicles only, with a canoe or kayak in or on them. Boat trailers would not be able to negotiate it at this time. A beaver flowage runs across the road a few hundred yards from the pond. Near future plans do include road improvements to allow better vehicle and trailer access. ITS 85 runs along a portion of the west side of the pond, and is maintained by the Fox

About WMAs

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife owns and manages over 120,000 acres of Wildlife Management Areas statewide. This property is open for a variety of public use, including hunting, fishing, hiking, snowmobiling, boating, ATVs, bird-watching, horseback riding and more. As more and more private land becomes unavailable to recreational users, WMAs provide a wide range of opportunities for public enjoyment. We hope that our land users will also be caretakers of these properties, recreating responsibly and ethically.

Glen Snowmobile Club.

The access road from Cross Hill Road (Maine Gazetteer Map 13, B1.75) was gated in 2000 to prevent cars, trucks and ATVs from using it, although it is an active snowmobile trail. Problems with erosion have occurred on these trails as a result of inappropriate vehicle use. Gates that are closed seasonally are opened during winter months for snowmobilers.

The Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) notes two special Natural Communities that exist on the property. A mixed hardwood conifer forest exists on the south shore of Dam Pond, and an oak-beech forest exists on the south side of Tolman Pond. In fact, this area is included in the Ecological Reserve program.

This management area provides excellent nesting and brood rearing habitat for numerous species of waterfowl, wading birds and shorebirds. Waterfowl nesting boxes are annually installed and



Spectacle Pond is a top defined, with access fr



Top-notch brown trout fishery (above). Its roads and trails (top) are well maintained by regional biologists. There is excellent habitat for a variety of aquatic and upland furbearers, and other wildlife species. It has been noted by regional biologists that moose are abundant in the riparian habitats at the southern end of Spectacle and south to Dam and Tolman Ponds.

Spectacle Pond is a top-notch brown trout fishery, and well worth the effort it will take to access the pond with a boat. In 2009, 500 spring yearling brookies and 150 fall yearling browns were stocked. Secondary fisheries include largemouth bass, chain pickerel, white perch and smelt.

Spectacle Pond was included in the MDIF&W's 1996 Fishery Initiative Program. The objective of this statewide fishery program was to improve fish size and quality by implementing extremely conservative regulations. The current regulations are: Daily limit on brown trout 1 fish with a minimum size of 18 inches; Daily bag limit on brook trout 2 fish, minimum length limit of 12 inches, only 1 may exceed 14 inches. Fishing is still restricted to artificial lures. It is closed to ice fishing until Jan. 1, then open to ice fishing and open water fishing from Jan 1–March 31. The pond has a 10-horsepower motor restriction.

This WMA is well suited for a variety of public uses, including hunting, fishing, trapping, snowmobiling, hiking, bird watching, ATV, horseback or mountain bike riding. ATVs are allowed on roads with vehicle access and where there are marked ATV trails only. Vehicles are allowed to drive in from the Church Hill Road at the north end of the WMA to Spectacle Pond, but again, this access is rough and 4WD is strongly recommended. The trail system is well defined, although not necessarily marked, with a variety of secondary woods roads criss-crossing the area allowing for further explorations. This large parcel is certainly a treasure so close to Maine's capital city.



Photos by Ron Taylor

UPPER COLD STREAM POND

WESTERN BASIN

Our Newest Attraction

By Lisa Kane

MDIF&W Natural Sciences Educator

Upper Cold Stream Pond (Western Basin), locally called the Big Narrows in Lincoln, (Gazetteer Map 34, A1), is a 499-acre spring-fed lake with a depth of up to 66 feet. Listed by MDIF&W as a high to moderate value fishery for brook trout and landlocked salmon, prior access for both the public and the Department was across privately owned property. After being sold to a new landowner, the Transalpine Road access was permanently lost,

and the Department needed to find a new site for access to this lake. A boat launch icon here has been listed in error on the Gazetteer for years.

Finding new boating access sites in general, is not an easy task. Federal grant monies from the USFWS Sport Fish Restoration program for land purchase and site development must be acquired through an extensive application process. MDIF&W match monies must be budgeted for and reserved. In this case, match funds from both Land for Maine's Future 'water access funds' and from the Sportsmen License Plate funds were used.



The new boat launch at the Western Basin

Potential waterbody access sites undergo thorough reviews to provide safe, legal and adequate access for launching small to moderately sized boats from trailers. The Town of Lincoln had worked with MDIF&W since 1982 to find a suitable site for Big Narrows. In early 2007, after having identified a fitting site with a willing seller, a flag was raised almost immediately in a standard review by the State Historic Preservation Commission. Their data indicated this parcel may be sensitive for prehistoric archaeological sites, and that a Phase I archaeological



Basin of Upper Cold Stream Pond in Lincoln opens in late August.

survey would be required. The survey was conducted in a timely manner, and it was determined that no historic or archaeological sites were affected by the proposed acquisition and launch construction. The land was subsequently pre-acquired by a neighbor supportive of public access, then ultimately and permanently acquired by MDIF&W. The process of site development could then begin on the site, located off the Stanhope Road.

Engineering, permitting and design work was contracted for by October 2008. In May of 2009, proposed design plans

were submitted for review by DEP, with a Permit by Rule secured by early fall 2009. Construction bids were opened in January 2010 and work began in SUMMER 2010. The new boat launch site is expected to be fully operational by late August 2010. This shallow-water site will accommodate up to nine vehicles and trailers with a loop-style arrangement of the access/approach road, and a single lane, concrete plank boat ramp.

The MDIF&W stocking program for Big Narrows in 2010 consisted of 250 spring yearling Landlocked salmon and 850

spring yearling brook trout. An additional 700 fall yearling brookies are scheduled to be stocked this fall. Roughly the same numbers are planned for 2011.

Current regulations are: no size or bag limit on bass; daily bag limit on landlocked salmon and togue: 1 fish. It is closed to ice fishing until Jan 1; then open to ice and open water fishing through March 31.

Plan to get out to the western basin of Upper Cold Stream Pond this September to try out the new boat launch site, and for some great fall fishing.



Iron ranger at Swan Island



New adventures await visitors to

By Lisa Kane

MDIF&W Natural Sciences Educator

MAINE WILDLIFE PARK

There are lots of new things to see and do at the Maine Wildlife Park in Gray. If you haven't been to the park in a couple of years, this summer is the time to pack up the kids, grandkids, or visiting friends from out of state and just go!

There are six new individual small mammal exhibits along a new "Woodland Path" trail under the trees opposite the deer yard, replacing the outdated 'row' of chain link and cement that was one of the first things visitors saw when they entered the park. The porcupines, skunk, raccoons, woodchucks, fisher and opossum have naturalized exhibits featuring lots of outdoor 'furniture', such as hollow logs, climbing mazes, naturalized dens,

pools and more. The animals are able to take in the sun, swim in a pool, climb a tree or retreat to their snug and cool dens. Special 'invisible' wire panels in the front of each exhibit allow for better viewing and photography opportunities. The Friends of the Maine Wildlife Park raised the funds for these exhibits, and dedicated the Woodland Path to former Friends President Joe Jones this spring.

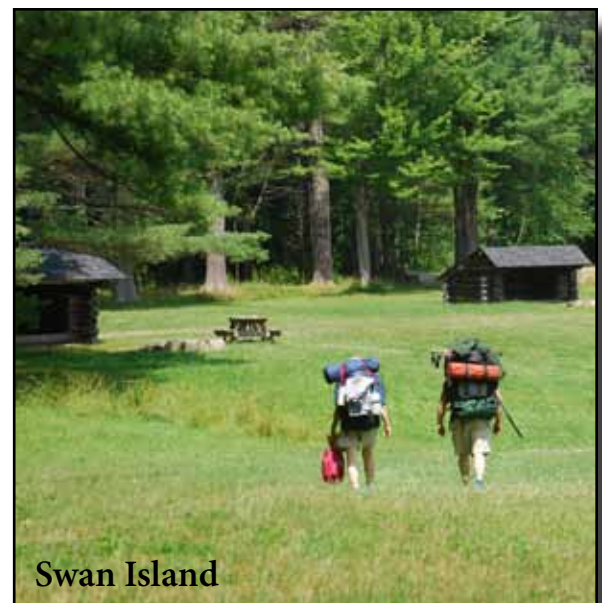
You'll notice small numbered blue signs at every exhibit or stop at the park. These are for taking an individual guided park tour via your cell phone! All you need to do is dial 207-228-1700 and follow the instructions to hear more about each individual animal, some natural history and fun facts, and in many cases, information about what MDIF&W does to manage that particular wildlife population. More than 3,000 people have taken this infor-

mative tour so far.

There are seven new interpretive signs at the park and adjoining Dry Mills Hatchery, describing specific wildlife or fish species work that MDIF&W biologists and hatchery workers do for fish and wildlife -- and for you to ultimately enjoy as you fish, hunt or view wildlife around the state.

The Maine Warden Service Museum has been updated and refurbished with new informational posters, a flat-screen TV playing MWS videos, and a circa 1960 snowmobile -- representative of the kind of equipment wardens used at that time.

The gardens throughout the park, tended solely by volunteers, grow more beautiful each year. Even if a lot of the animals are sleeping on a hot day, you can thoroughly enjoy the well tended flowerbeds that abound here, from the



Photos by Lisa Kane

MWP CALENDAR

August 28: **Maine Woodsman Day**
 September 11: **Rick Charette Concert**
 October 22 & 23: **HalloweenFest**

Visit www.mainewildlifepark.com
 for more information or check it out on Facebook.
 Swan Island is on Facebook, too!

Maine Wildlife Park, Swan Island

front entrance to the turtle ponds. The eagle's ponds have been cleaned and replanted with aquatic pond plants, and certainly provide inspiration if you are thinking about attempting a water garden at home.

All in all, there's plenty to see and do on a day visit to the Maine Wildlife Park. Bring a picnic, something to grill, plan on having an ice cream from the Snack Shack, visit the air-conditioned Nature Store, and enjoy a fine summer's day under the cathedral pines.

SWAN ISLAND

Swan Island, a 1,775-acre Wildlife Management Area and campground, located in the Kennebec River in Richmond, is a natural and historic getaway just 20 minutes south from the capitol city.

This year, some changes have been

made to make this stunning reserve more accessible to potential visitors. For the first time, reservations ARE NOT required for visitors using their own canoe or kayaks to access the island for day visits. So-called 'iron rangers' have been installed at the main boat landing at the northwestern tip of the island, and at the boat landing at the campground on the eastern side. The honor system for depositing day-use access fees is expected at both of these access points.

Unfortunately, there is not dock space available for any larger boats to tie up on the island. The adjacent Richmond Marina often has space for day-use tie-ups if you have a small tender to get across to explore on your own.

Biddeford Middle School, annual campers on the island for the past several years, tuned up and donated 5 mountain

bikes that are available at the northwest landing. Boaters may use the bikes to tour the island for free. We ask that you return them to their rack intact for the next visitors to use. Individuals may also bring their own bicycles to use on the 4-mile-long central dirt road.

If you need to take the MDIF&W ferry across, you must make a reservation by calling 547-5322 or emailing Swan_Island@maine.gov.

You know you've always wanted to visit and explore this "island in time," now it's easier than ever. Bring binoculars for viewing eagles and osprey, your fishing rod for bass and stripers in the river, your hiking or biking gear, cameras, and a picnic lunch for a visit you'll want to repeat. Remember, most week days there are only a few people on the island; weekends just a few more.

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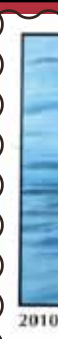
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2010

MATCH FISH SPECIES WITH ITS NAME

K ARCTIC CHARR	P NORTHERN PIKE
S BLACK CRAPPIE	A PUMPKINSEED SUNFISH
B BROOK TROUT	D RAINBOW SMELT
E BROWN TROUT	J RAINBOW TROUT
I BROWN BULLHEAD	T REDBREAST SUNFISH
L CHAIN PICKEREL	R SMALLMOUTH BASS
N CUSK	F SPLAKE
O LAKE WHITEFISH	M TOGUE
H LANDLOCKED SALMON	G WHITE PERCH
C LARGEMOUTH BASS	U YELLOW PERCH
Q MUSKELLUNGE	

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL ANSWERS & PRINTABLE POSTER.



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MAINE FI



PUMPKINSEED SUNFISH

WARMWATER NATIVE



BROOK TROUT

COLDWATER NATIVE



LARGEMOUTH BASS

WARMWATER NON-NATIVE



RAINBOW SMELT

COLDWATER NATIVE



BROWN TROUT

COLDWATER NON-NATIVE



SPLAKE

COLDWATER NATIVE



WHITE PERCH

WARMWATER NATIVE



LANDLOCKED SALMON

COLDWATER NATIVE



BROWN BULLHEAD

WARMWATER NATIVE



RAINBOW TROUT

COLDWATER NON-NATIVE

FISH GUIDE



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COLDWATER NATIVE



MUSKELLUNGE
WARMWATER NON-NATIVE



CHAIN PICKEREL
WARMWATER NATIVE



SMALLMOUTH BASS
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TOGUE
COLDWATER NATIVE



BLACK CRAPPIE
WARMWATER NON-NATIVE



CUSK
COLDWATER NATIVE



REDBREAST SUNFISH
WARMWATER NATIVE



LAKE WHITEFISH
COLDWATER NATIVE



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